

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the above-captioned patent application. Claims 5, 8, 11, 16, and 19 are withdrawn.

In response to the election of species requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed December 2, 2003, Applicants hereby elect the species shown in Figs. 9-14. In the Office Action of September 8, 2006, the examiner associates Species A with claims 1-8, associates Species B with claims 9-16, and associates Species C with claims 17-20. However, according to M.P.E.P. § 806.04(e), "[c]laims are never species" but rather, "[s]pecies are always the specifically different embodiments." (Emphasis in original). Therefore, to the extent that there are different species disclosed in the present application, it is respectfully contended that those species include the species of Figs. 1-8, the species of Figs. 9-15, and the species of Figs. 16-21. As such, the election of the species shown in Figs. 9-14 is made with traverse because the examiner has improperly designated claims, rather than embodiments, as the various species. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12-15, 17, 18, and 20 read upon the species of Figs. 9-14. The present application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions related to this amendment or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview to expedite the prosecution of this application for all concerned. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (317) 231-7341 to discuss any outstanding issues or concerns so that allowance of the present application may be expedited. It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and that shortages in fees, if any, be charged to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435, with reference to our file 3044-73785.

Respectfully submitted,

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